Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 144877 ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 AID-05 EUR-12 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 /098 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:FTUMMINIA:KC
APPROVED BY ARA:JBUSHNELL
ARA/CAR:AHEWITT
NSC:RPASTOR (SUBS)
ARA:SASHELTON

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P 080017Z JUN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 144877

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, GY

SUBJECT: CARTER-BURNHAM LETTER

REF: STATE 138939

- 1. DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL HAVE DECIDED THAT LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM SHOULD BE DELIVERED AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY. AMBASSADOR'S CONCERNS WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BUT SINCE IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT A MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND BURNHAM CAN TAKE PLACE EVEN IN 1979, DELIVERY OF LETTER WOULD BE ONLY POSSIBLE GESTURE TOWARD GUYANESE PRIME MINISTER.
- 2. IN DELIVERING LETTER AMBASSADOR SHOULD MAKE POINT THAT THE LETTER IS A CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION BECONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 144877

TWEEN THE TWO LEADERS AND IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THE PM WILL TREAT IT AS SUCH.

3. IF PRESSED, AMBASSADOR MAY INFORM GOG THAT A MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND BURNHAM IS NOT POSSIBLE THIS YEAR AND ONLY A REMOTE POSSIBILITY IN 1979.

4. AMBASSADOR SHOULD TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION TO GOG OFFICIALS TO WHOM HE DELIVERS LETTER DEPARTMENT'S GROWING CONCERN OVER TREND OF EVENTS IN GUYANA AND ESCALATING EFFORT BY GOG TO RAM THROUGH CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. AMBASSADOR MAY POINT OUT THE IMPACT THAT THESE EVENTS COULD HAVE ON THE SO FAR SATISFACTORY HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD OF GUYANA. IN THIS CONTEXT AMBASSADOR SHOULD POINT OUT THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS REPEATEDLY STATED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS IS THE CENTER-PIECE OF THE UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Subject: CARTER-BURNHAM LETTER

TAGS: PINT, PPDC, GY, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (BURNHAM, L F S)
To: GEORGETOWN

Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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